



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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By: MG Thomas H. Katkus

As commissioner for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and adjutant general for the Alaska National Guard, I am responsible for ensuring all personnel aggressively root out any harassment, hostile work environments, sexual assault, or trading of sexual favors. Unequivocally, these actions have no place in America's work environment. This responsibility to our military family and our state workforce is nonnegotiable.

Every allegation that is brought forward to the senior leadership of the Alaska National Guard, or the Alaska National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, against one of our members, is immediately investigated to identify a potential breach in military policy, and simultaneously sent forward to the appropriate law enforcement agency to investigate potential criminal activity.

The Alaska National Guard is committed to protecting our men and women from sexual assault, and ensuring justice is served. We are focusing efforts on prevention, victim support, investigations, and accountability. Sexual assault and harassment are inconsistent with our values. When an allegation is substantiated, we deal with it within the full measure of applicable policy, regulation, and law.

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